

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q78135

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): A method of relaying traffic from a source to a targeted destination in a communications network, said method comprising the steps of:
 - providing a first and at least one second network adapter each providing access to a network having a plurality of destinations,
 - providing a first routing table which defines at least a first destination associated with the first network adapter, and
 - relaying said traffic from the source to the targeted destination using one of the network adapters,

said method comprising the further step of providing at least one second routing table defining a second destination, which second destination is individually associated with said at least one second network adapter, wherein the step of relaying includes a step of selecting one of the first and second routing tables.

2. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second routing tables define said first and second destinations as default destinations which are used for traffic relay in any default situation.

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3. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein at least some of the first and second routing tables comprise specific destinations pointing to another routing table, preferably by means of a next hop entry.

4. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing network adapters includes providing real network adapters and providing at least one virtual network adapter, wherein each virtual network adapter is individually associated with a third routing table.

5. (original): The method of claim 4, wherein the third routing table includes next hop and interface entries pointing to at least one of the following: another routing table or a real network adapter, and wherein the step of relaying uses the at least one virtual network adapter and its associated third routing table.

6. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the step of selecting a routing table is triggered by the source.

7. (original): A network adapter for providing access to a network from a source, said network adapter comprising an individually associated routing table.

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8. (original): The network adapter of claim 7, said network adapter being a virtual adapter, said individually associated routing table comprising next hop and interface entries pointing to at least one of the following: another routing table or a real network adapter.

9. (original): A client terminal comprising a plurality of network adapters for providing access to a network and a first routing table, said client terminal further comprising a plurality of second routing tables, wherein each network adapter is individually associated with one of the first and second routing tables.

10. (original): A router for relaying traffic from a source to a targeted destination in a communications network, comprising a plurality of network adapters for providing access to the network and a first routing table, said router further comprising a plurality of second routing tables, wherein each network adapter is individually associated with one of the first and second routing tables.

11. (original): An operating system component for connecting a source application running on a machine to a communications network, such operating system comprising a plurality of routing tables each configured to be individually associated with a network adapter of said machine.

12. (original): The operating system component of claim 11, further comprising a plurality of virtual network adapters, each virtual network adapter being associated with one

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from a plurality of third routing tables and each associated third routing table comprising next hop and interface entries pointing to at least one of the following: another routing table or a real network adapter.

13. (currently amended): A computer software product comprising an operating system component of claim 11-~~or~~12.

14. (original): A computer software product comprising a computer program for implementing and configuring a plurality of routing tables each to be associated with one of a plurality of network adapters accessible from a machine where the program is executed.